



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of
Health and Social Services**

DIVISION OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
Family Nutrition Programs

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Date: February 2014

Invitation to Participate in the 2014-2015 Farmers' Market Nutrition Program and Senior Farmers' Market Nutritional Program

Spring is here, and it's time to prepare for the upcoming Farmers' Market season. This year marks the second two-year authorization cycle, where farmers markets, farmers, and farm stands are authorized for two seasons. Please take special note of our upcoming dates and deadlines as some of them have changed since the last authorization period.

NEW! We will be creating a brochure listing the locations of our authorized farmers' markets, farmers and farm stands. This brochure will be distributed to participants at the time they receive their coupons. If you would like to be included in this publication your completed application must be received no later than April 15th, 2014.

Important dates for the FMNP and SFMNP:

March 1, 2014 and ending June 15, 2014. Applications accepted for the 2014-2015 Farmers' Market Nutritional Program and Senior Farmers' Market Nutritional Program seasons.

June 1, 2014 – October 31, 2014: Authorized farmers may accept WIC Farmers' Market Coupons, WIC Fruit & Vegetable Vouchers (FVVs), and Senior Farmers' Market Coupons (where available).

November 15, 2014: The last date that an authorized farmer may deposit an FMNP Coupon in the bank. Coupons deposited after that date will not be reimbursed.

November 30, 2014: This is the last date that a SFMNP coupon may be received by the Assigned Payment Agency for redemption.

March 1, 2015 and ending June 15, 2015. Applicants may apply for the second year of this two year cycle.

FMNP / SFMNP Application Process:

- 1) Complete and sign application, banking form, and vendor agreement.
- 2) On your application, list the number of "WIC Accepted Here" posters and FMNP / SFMNP Vendor Manuals you will need.
- 3) If you are selling from your farm or farmstand, provide details of your location or driving directions that will help participants find your sales location(s). In order to be included in the WIC-authorized farmer's list for participants, your complete application and location information must be received by April 15, 2014.

February 3, 2014

Page 2

- 4) Send the completed application packet to the WIC Program Office at the address listed above.
- 5) The WIC Program will review your application and contact you if any additional information is required. You will receive notice of your authorization by mail, along with a signed copy of your vendor agreement.
- 6) If you are a new vendor, a vendor number will be assigned to you, and you will receive a vendor number stamp that must be used on all FMNP and SFMNP Coupons and FVVs before redeeming them. You may not accept the coupons or vouchers from participants until you have received your authorization and vendor stamp.
- 7) If you are a returning vendor, your vendor number will not change, and you will use the stamp that was already issued to you. If you need a new stamp, please notify our office and we will order a new one for you.
- 8) We will also mail you WIC posters, the Vendor Manual, along with information on upcoming trainings. Participation in at least one teleconference training each year is a program requirement for authorized Farmers' Market managers and FMNP / SFMNP vendors.

Please review the materials on our website and contact us with any questions. You can expect authorization to take up to two weeks after we receive your application. For more information, contact:

- Erin Khmelev, FMNP Assistant Coordinator at (907)465-8630 or email: Erin.Khmelev@alaska.gov
- Elaine Nisonger, Senior FMNP Program Coordinator at (907) 269-8446 or email: Elaine.Nisonger@alaska.gov

We appreciate your commitment to providing fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs to WIC participants in your community.

Sincerely,



Erin Khmelev
FMNP Coordinator

Sincerely,



Elaine Nisonger
Sr. FMNP Coordinator